

Ballot Boxes", relating to assistance for those who are unable to mark their ballots on account of blindness or other physical disability.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 76 of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1924 Edition), title "Elections", subtitle "Ballots and Ballot Boxes", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

76. Assistance in marking their ballots shall be given to voters who shall declare under oath to the judges of election that by reason of blindness or physical disability they are unable without assistance to mark their ballot. Upon making and filing with the judges such affidavit the voter shall retire to one of said booths with any immediate member of his family whom he may select or with the two clerks and then and there the immediate member of his family whom he has selected or in case he has selected no one, one of said clerks, in the presence of the other, shall mark the ballot as such voter shall direct, the voter himself naming one by one the candidates for whom he desires his ballot to be marked and not indicating the candidates by a general designation as the candidates of any one political party. The ballots shall not be read to such voter, nor shall any suggestion of any kind be made by the member of his family whom he has selected or by either said two clerks to show him as to how his ballot is to be marked, but the only assistance which it shall be lawful for said member of his family or for the clerks to give him is to mark the ballot as he, without prompting or suggestion from them, or either of them shall direct, but no ballot shall be marked under this section until a majority of the judges of election shall be satisfied of the truth of the fact stated in such affidavit. Voters who are not disabled by blindness or physical injury from marking their ballots shall not be entitled to receive assistance in marking them. and with the exception in favor of persons blind or incapable from physical injury of marking their ballots without assistance, no distinction or discrimination in the matter of assistance in marking ballots shall be made for or against any duly registered voter for any other cause whatever.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1939.

Approved May 27, 1939.